

Appl. No. : 10/616,160
Filed : July 9, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a microarray in which a biological substance is fixed on a substrate comprising the steps of spotting a liquid sample containing a said biological substance onto the substrate by using an automated dispensing device which is equipped with a micropipette and automatically performs at least the operations of supporting the micropipette and ejecting a liquid sample stored in the micropipette, and drying the spotted sample so that the biological substance is fixed onto the substrate, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

forming a droplet of the sample at a pouring port of the micropipette by ejecting a predetermined amount of the sample from the micropipette,

supporting the micropipette at the position where the droplet formed ~~at the pouring port~~ can contact with the substrate, and

transferring the droplet formed ~~at the pouring port~~ to the substrate, thereby spotting the sample onto the substrate, wherein the spot has a diameter of at least 1 mm.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is spotted at a plurality of positions on the substrate by an automated dispensing device having a plurality of micropipettes.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the droplet is formed by ejecting 0.5 to 2.0 μ l of the sample from the micropipette.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the droplet is formed by ejecting 0.5 to 2.0 μ l of the sample from the micropipette.